



IMPACTING REAL PEOPLE

The Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council's (MODDC) mission is to assist individuals, families, and the community to include all people with developmental disabilities (DD) in every aspect of life.

- Non-partisan organization guided by the lived experiences of Missouri families and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).
- MODDC is unique in that we are led by and for people with disabilities. The work of the Council is guided by the experiences of individuals and families navigating Missouri systems.
- The Council has worked for systems change in some of the biggest issues and concerns facing Missourians with I/DD and their families.

I/DD DEFINED:

I/DD = Intellectual and Developmental Disability

According to the DD Act, the term developmental disability means a severe, chronic disability that occurs before an individual is 22 that is likely to continue indefinitely, and results in substantial functional limitations in three or more areas of major life activity.

HOW WE PARTNER WITH MISSOURI AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

- We provide funding in the form of grants to non-profits, businesses and organizations across the state who respond to our NoFAs (Notices of Funding Available) for systems change for people with I/DD.
- Connect legislators with self-advocate stakeholders relevant to their proposed bills or who live in their district.
- Serve as a resource for disability related issues.

INVESTING IN MISSOURI

Since 2022, MODDC has invested over **\$1.5 million** in projects that directly **benefit Missourians with DD.**



WE ARE A RESOURCE FOR YOU.

MODDC's role is to advocate and educate stakeholders and lawmakers. Let's connect today!

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2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

MODDC is a nonpartisan council that advocates for Missourians with I/DD. All information shared is to educate policymakers on issues facing people with I/DD and advocate for systems change.

DIRECT CARE WORKFORCE

Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) provide the skilled care necessary for people with I/DD to live independently, work, and connect with their communities. However, lack of meaningful investment in DSP wages combined with competitive wages at other hourly jobs like fast food and retail has created a crisis. These skilled members of the Missouri workforce provide the supports necessary for people with I/DD to live and work as independently as possible.

- The Missouri General Assembly must find ways to prioritize competitive wages for Direct Care Professionals.
- Missouri should prioritize funding models that incentivize supports in the least restrictive environment.

GUARDIANSHIP

Missouri should respect everyone's right to make their own decisions. Missouri must move away from policies and practices that create, uphold and strengthen unnecessary and overreaching guardianship for people with I/DD.

Guardianships should only get used as a last resort. People with disabilities should get to try every other way to help them before trying guardianship.

Systems should promote Supported Decision Making. People shouldn't be put under guardianship just because they have a disability.

Guardianships shouldn't take away any more rights than they have to. Guardianships should help people make their own choices when used the right way.

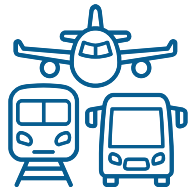
LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT



Missourians with I/DD have the right to full access to services, supports and community living in an integrated and minimally restrictive environment.

- As a state and society, we must acknowledge that people with disabilities have the right to receive appropriate supports and services empowering them to lead full, healthy, independent, and community-included lives.
- Missouri law, policy, and practice should abide by the HCBS Settings Rule and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

TRANSPORTATION



Missouri should enact and implement legislation, policies, and practices that expand transportation options and opportunities for all.

- Missouri should make sure all people have more choices to meet their transportation needs. Missouri should also make sure transportation is accessible for people with disabilities

More resources, including money and infrastructure should be invested to remove barriers to accessible transportation for Missourians with disabilities.